GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3232
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006
GENERATION OF POWER FROM ATOMIC ENERGY
Bishnoi Shri Jaswant Singh

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether power generation through coal and lignite is cheaper than that from atomic power;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for promoting production of power from the atomic energy?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) to (b) Currently, Nuclear Power is competitive to coal/lignite at locations away from coal mines. There are several regions in the country that are away from the coal mines, where nuclear power is competitive.

(c) India has vast reserves of thorium which has huge potential for electricity generation in the long term. A three-stage nuclear power programme has been formulated to achieve long term security through use of abundantly available Indian thorium resources.

Commercial maturity is reached for the first stage and second stage has been launched recently.